

USACHPPM
HEALTH INFORMATION OPERATIONS (HIO) UPDATE

17 January 2003

The HIO Update provides information regarding global medical and veterinary issues of interest to the United States (US) Army. The update does not attempt to analyze the information regarding potential strategic or tactical impact to the US Army and as such, should not be regarded as a medical intelligence product. Medical intelligence products are available at <http://mic.afmic.detrick.army.mil/>. The information in the HIO Update should provide an increased awareness of current and emerging health-related issues.

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HOT ISSUES

Clues to Stop, Treat Toe Ulcers Before They Start

10 January – Reuters reported ulcers on the big toe can pose a major problem for people with nerve damage as a result of diabetes, but new research shows that patients with big toe ulcers also tend to show several abnormalities in the structure and range of motion of the affected toe and foot, manifesting as lack of motion in the toe and ankle. As such, the authors of the report reason that these factors may act as risk factors for developing ulcers in the big toe, and doctors looking to prevent this painful problem in their diabetic patients should screen them for these warning signs. The traits that big toe ulcer patients share "should be considered risk factors for developing great toe ulcers," write Dr. Troy J. Boffeli of the Regions Hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota and colleagues. Monitoring patients who show signs of these problems may also help treat the ulcers when they appear, the authors note. The study is published in the Journal of Foot & Ankle Surgery 2002;41:359-364. [View Article](#)

Polymerase Chain Reaction Detects Bacterial Meningitis Early

Jan. 13, 2003 — Medscape reported broad-range bacterial polymerase chain reaction (PCR) may allow early detection of bacterial meningitis, according to a report in the January issue of Clinical Infectious Diseases. This test could be used to identify those not needing to continue therapy, but it should be used in conjunction with culture and sensitivity tests. The diagnosis of bacterial meningitis often depends on isolation of bacteria on culture, which may take 24-48 hours, but this technique could provide a rapid diagnosis, which would guide the clinician in therapy decisions. The test could be performed in two hours and was described by the authors as a "promising screening test," with sensitivity of 100%, specificity of 98.2%, positive predictive value of 94.4%, and negative predictive value of 100%. [View Article](#)

Report Highlights Potential Dangers of Supplements

10 January – Reuters reported better safety monitoring is needed for dietary supplements, some of which have the potential for "substantial hazard," according to a US study. The study of 11 poison control centers nationwide found that the centers received more than 2,300 calls about dietary supplements in 1998. In all, researchers believe nearly 500 people had symptoms likely caused by a supplement, and the "adverse events" ranged from mild to serious. One third of supplement-related problems were moderate or severe, according to findings published in the January 11th issue of The Lancet. Serious symptoms included seizure, heart-rhythm disturbances and liver dysfunction, among other problems. Four deaths were thought to be tied to supplements. The study is published in the Lancet 2003;361:101-106. [View Article](#)

Smallpox Vaccine Risk Is Lower for Prior Recipients

11 January – The Washington Post reported reports gathered by the U.S. armed forces over nearly five decades provide new evidence that the modest risk of serious side effects or death from smallpox vaccine drops dramatically in people who have been vaccinated before. From 1942 to 1990, when smallpox inoculations ceased for military personnel, the armed forces did not record a single fatality from the vaccine. Information on the military's experience in published materials and internal military documents from the 1960s through the 1980s comprises the only known body of evidence describing the effects of the U.S. vaccine in a large population over a long period of time. But Lt. Col. John Grabenstein, deputy director of the Military Vaccine Agency, cautioned that the armed forces' successful experience with the vaccine cannot be used to predict the likely consequences of vaccinating the civilian population, since military personnel are a selected group of mostly young, healthy adults. Also, he said, residual immunity produced by the vaccine declines over time -- so someone vaccinated 30 years ago is likely to have more chance of an adverse reaction than someone vaccinated more recently. [View Article](#)

Study Suggests Way to Boost Blood-Platelet Supply

10 January – Reuters reported new research may find a way to extend the shelf-life of platelets, tiny blood cells that are used in millions of transfusions each year, yet often go to waste because they cannot be refrigerated. Scientists have long puzzled over why chilling renders platelets useless for transfusion--a fact that makes the cells different from other blood products, and all transplantable tissue. Now researchers at Harvard University and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts believe they have discovered why: Chilling platelets causes a change on the blood cells' surface that ultimately makes them targets for removal after they are transfused into the recipient. The scientists speculate that making specific changes to the platelets could permit the cells to be chilled, yet still function normally after transfusion. Dr. Karin M. Hoffmeister and her colleagues report their findings in the January 10th issue of the journal *Cell*. [View Article](#)

USEUCOM

Albania: Contaminated Tap Water Causes Hepatitis A Outbreak

10 January – ProMed reported Albania's Health Ministry said that 111 children from a northern town have fallen ill during a lengthy outbreak of hepatitis A infection caused by contaminated tap water. The deputy mayor of Lac, Gjergj Roshi, said the water-distribution network in 3/4 of the town is badly damaged. Health Ministry spokeswoman Doreada Mio said the government had urged the residents of the town not to drink the water without boiling it first. But the outbreak, which began in November 2002, is continuing, and the town wants the Education Ministry to close the city's schools and preschools to avoid a wider epidemic. [View Report](#)

Cholera in Côte d'Ivoire

08 January – CSR reported the World Health Organization (WHO) has reported a total of 70 cases of Cholera, including 15 deaths in the village of Tabléguikou-gly in the district of Divot

from 22 December 2002 - 5 January 2003. Cholera has been laboratory confirmed by Institute Pasteur, Côte d'Ivoire. Control measures are in place and appropriate medication is available. [View Report](#)

Côte d'Ivoire: Humanitarians Warn of Health Risk

13 January – IRIN News reported warnings of possible health epidemics have increased in the last several weeks as the four-month old crisis in Cote d'Ivoire continues to affect thousands of people. For the World food Program (WFP) and other humanitarian agencies, western and southwestern Cote d'Ivoire represented the latest concerns, as the area had become the latest "hotspot" after a recent series of clashes with rebel movements. Towns in central and northern Cote d'Ivoire were also affected by diseases due to a lack of medical staff and supplies. Measles, cholera, yellow fever, meningitis appeared as the main concerns as these communicable diseases could spread easily amid the internally displaced persons (IDP) community. In the southwestern port city of San Pedro, the head of the town Red Cross office told IRIN that there was a risk of disease outbreaks among children. [View Article](#)

Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak in Botswana

11 January – ProMed reported the Ministry of Agriculture has confirmed an outbreak of Foot & Mouth Disease (FMD) in Matopi. Animal Health and Production deputy director Dr Musa Fanikiso said contingency measures have been put in place, and they involve joint police and BDF control of livestock movement along the border between Zimbabwe and Botswana. The Department of Animal Health Production team at Matopi is intensifying surveillance and carrying out further tests to check the extent of the spread of the disease and to establish how it entered the area. He said the outbreak of FMD could be a result of carelessness by human beings in handling livestock and meat products and movement of people, including herdsmen or anyone who has been in contact with infected animals. However, it is likely that Botswana could be experiencing a spillover problem of the disease from neighboring Zimbabwe, where the disease already exists. [View Report](#)

'Good Fungus' to Fight African Poisons

10 January – BBC News reported scientists in Africa are preparing a bold farming experiment that could improve food safety for millions of people living in tropical areas. Research shows that as many as 99% of African children in some areas carry debilitating toxins in their blood caused by a fungus which grows in warm, humid conditions, on corn and peanuts. This project will help reduce aflatoxins in African staple crops and make food safer to eat. Scientists at the Nigeria-based International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) say the experiment, due to start in the growing season which begins in a few weeks' time, is to replace this dangerous fungus, which is linked to stunted child growth, by establishing a safer strain of fungus - a process they call "Good Fungus For Bad". The experiment will introduce a benign fungus and have it outgrow - and exclude - the dangerous one. [View Article](#)

Massive Strides Made Against Malaria in Lubombo SDI

09 January – African Eye News Service reported the prevalence of malaria in the Lubombo spatial development initiative (SDI) area where KwaZulu-Natal, Mozambique and Swaziland share their borders, has dropped dramatically in the past two years. The disease has been

reduced by 91 percent in KwaZulu-Natal, 70 percent in Mozambique and 64 percent in Swaziland. "It has been recognized that malaria can no longer be treated as a country-specific problem but should be addressed at a regional level," says Brian Sharp of the Medical Research Council. The South African, Mozambique and Swaziland governments have targeted the Lubombo SDI area for massive infrastructure and tourism development to create a globally competitive economic zone. One of the first priorities of the Lubombo SDI is to dramatically reduce the prevalence of malaria within a five-year time frame, starting in 2000. "Already in certain areas in Mozambique, the prevalence of the disease has been reduced to less than 20 percent so in part attaining the five-year objective of the program after only two years," said Sharp. Malaria contributes significantly to sustained poverty for 40 percent of the world's population. [View Article](#)

UK: Ice Cube Alert on Bacteria

08 January – The Food Safety Information Office reported nearly half the ice cubes used in drinks served in UK county pubs and restaurants are, according to a report by food safety officers, contaminated. The new study found that of 61 samples taken from venues in Northamptonshire, 27 contained traces of dirt and bacteria. Seven of the contaminated specimens contained the *E. coli*, while a further nine of them had traces of bacteria normally found in excrement. The fecal bacteria are not themselves harmful, but if the person or animal from which they came was ill then that illness could be passed on. The results of the survey - compiled by food safety officers who work for local authorities in the county - are similar to those of another study in 1998 and the contamination is likely to be due to poor cleaning of ice machines and ice buckets. Poor personal hygiene among staff, particularly employees failing to wash their hands after going to the toilet, has also been blamed. [View Article](#)

USCENTCOM

Afghanistan: Cold Spell Kills Refugee Children

13 January – IRIN News reported the office for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Pakistan confirmed the deaths of children in Afghan refugees camps on Pakistan's border with Afghanistan. "We know that there have been some deaths, most probably due to the cold weather, but we don't have any numbers yet," a UNHCR spokesman, Jack Redden, told IRIN. The deaths are said to have occurred at camps in the Bajaur Agency. Redden's comments follow local newspaper reports suggesting that up to 12 refugees, mainly children, had died of pneumonia over the past two weeks in an unusually cold spell. The deaths are reported to have occurred at the Kotkai, Chahermang and Bar Khalzo camps, established in the Bajaur Agency to house thousands of refugees who poured over the border following the US-led air strikes on Afghanistan. "These people are living in tents, and the temperatures often fall to below zero during these months," Redden said. UNHCR had mobilized local field staff in the NWFP to visit the areas and check the camps. "We are making plans to see how we can help," he added. [View Article](#)

Aid Agencies Ill-Prepared for Aftermath of Chemical Attack

11 January – The Guardian reported international relief agencies are completely unprepared to deal with the consequences of a chemical or biological attack on a civilian population in Iraq, experts from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine said. Without prohibitively expensive detection devices, aid agencies are unable to rapidly detect whether chemical or biological agents have been used. Nor do they have practical means of protecting themselves, and they have no experience in decontamination, quarantine or barrier nursing to stem an epidemic. A paper produced jointly by the school and Merlin, the British-based charity, warned that humanitarian organizations preparing for a conflict in Iraq had stark choices to face. They either had to develop their own capacity to respond to the consequences of weapons of mass destruction, which would be free from military control, or they had to work with the military, thus compromising long-standing rules of impartiality and neutrality. The alternative was that humanitarian aid could not be delivered safely when these weapons are involved. [View Article](#)

USNORTHCOM

Hantavirus Infection: Arizona and South Dakota

09 January – ProMed reported Maricopa County health officials confirmed 2 recent cases of Hantavirus infection and are urging the public to take precautions around rodent-infested areas. Investigators determined that one man contracted the rare and sometimes fatal pulmonary disease in the county, and they are still trying to figure out where the other victim was exposed to the virus. [View Report](#). In addition, according to a 14 January ProMed report, Hantavirus Pulmonary syndrome has been reported Huron, South Dakota. The disease was detected in a healthy young man in his 20s who lives in Beadle County. The man is now recovering well. Detection and prevention guidelines have also been given to residents of that area. [View Report](#)

Army Testing New Method to Detect Breast Cancer

03 January – AMEDD reported a five-year trial is now underway at Walter Reed Army Medical Center to prove the value of "electrical impedance scanning" (EIS) in detecting early stages of breast cancer in women under the age of 45. The study is not intended to compete with mammograms. EIS is able to detect early stage tumors, particularly in young women; and 20 percent of the active-duty force is female; 92 percent of which are women under the age of 40. Tumor tissue differs from normal breast tissue in electrical properties, and electrical impedance scanning detects in five minutes whether further screening is needed. Women eligible for the trial include non-pregnant military health-care beneficiaries ages 18 to 45 who have not breast fed or had breast surgery within the preceding three months and who do not have implanted electrically-powered devices. Patients undergo outpatient assessment with electrical impedance scanning. More information on the trial is available from the Walter Reed Comprehensive Breast Center at 202-782-3416. [View Article](#)

Death from Accidents, Homicide Highest Among Poor

10 January- Reuters reported being of lower socioeconomic status--based on occupation, income and education--increases the risk of dying from car accidents, fires, poisonings, falls and homicides, especially for men, new study findings show. Researchers found that men who fell into the lowest 25% in terms of socioeconomic status were nearly three times more likely to die of such causes than men in the highest 25% of people in terms of socioeconomic status. A similar trend was also seen for women but to a lesser extent, according to the report in the January issue of the journal *Epidemiology*. Deaths from such causes are the second leading killer of people younger than 75, and "merit special attention because most are potentially preventable," note Dr. Kyle Steenland of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia and colleagues. The investigators also found that blacks had a 74% increased risk of death from external causes compared to whites, even after accounting for the effects of socioeconomic status. The study is reported in *Epidemiology* 2003;14:74-79. [View Article](#)

FBI Issues Poison Primer

10 January – CBS News reported the FBI has alerted local police about ricin and is offering tips for recognizing and handling the deadly toxin, but stressed that there is no evidence of any planned attack in the U.S. A bulletin was sent to local agencies nationwide following the arrests in London of seven men allegedly connected with an Algerian extremist group. Police say the men were plotting to kill a small number of people with ricin in an attempt to terrify the London population. Ricin is made from beans of the common castor plant. The purpose of the warning is to provide police and emergency personnel with a primer on the potent poison's hazards and handling, an FBI spokesman said Friday. The FBI notes that ricin can be made in liquid, crystal or dry powder form and that in low doses, it has a laxative rather than lethal effect. But if it is inhaled or ingested, the FBI says, serious symptoms such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, chest tightness and low blood pressure can occur within eight hours. Death can come between 36 and 72 hours after exposure. "It is estimated that one milligram of ingested ricin can kill an adult," the bulletin said. [View Article](#)

Individual's Medical Costs Rise with Increasing Obesity

10 January - Health Behavior News Service reported overweight and obese individuals incur up to \$1,500 more in annual medical costs than healthy-weight individuals, according to a two-year study of nearly 200,000 employees of General Motors. The study, by Dee W. Edington, Ph.D., of the University of Michigan and colleagues, is the first to examine the relationship between medical costs and the six weight groups defined by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute's weight guidelines. The findings highlight the economic burden that obesity places on society. In 1994, researchers conservatively estimated the direct medical costs of obesity in the United States at \$51.6 billion dollars. The study is published in the January/February issue of the *American Journal of Health Promotion*. [View Article](#)

Military Seeks More Blood Donations

13 January - ABC news reported; facing a potential blood shortage, military installations around the country have been scrambling to get more people to donate blood. The Fort Bragg Blood Center needs to collect 677 units of blood a month, but right now has only about 250 units. Since the war in Afghanistan began, the military has shipped 17,000 units of blood to the region.

The pace is not likely to slow. During the Persian Gulf War, the United States sent 100,000 units of blood to the region in a six-month period. About 20 percent of that came from civilian sources. "We rely on civilians in case we don't have enough," said Col. Michael Fitzpatrick, director of the Armed Services Blood Program. "So, it's not only the military blood program but the civilian collection agencies that need donors at this time, not because we're asking them for blood but because we possibly could." Forty-three percent of all military service members are ineligible to donate blood due to being stationed in certain countries or receiving certain vaccinations. Complicating the effort to maintain a steady supply of blood is the fact that it has a relatively short shelf life. Blood is perishable and is good only for 42 days. Medical officials from both the military and civilian sectors say they need a steady stream of donors. [View Article](#)

No Serious Problems In Military Inoculations

11 January – The Washington Post reported none of the more than 170 military personnel vaccinated for smallpox at Walter Reed Army Medical Center more than three weeks ago has experienced serious complications or caused secondary infections in others, according to Army officials. Walter Reed doctors overseeing use of the live virus vaccine say their experience -- the first of any hospital -- should offer reassurance to nervous officials at civilian hospitals. [View Article](#)

Pertussis Outbreak Among Adults at an Oil Refinery in Illinois

09 January – ProMed reported between 01 Aug and 13 December 2002 pertussis was diagnosed in 17 out of 150 oil refinery workers from 2 separate operations and maintenance complexes, who were linked by contact with an ill supervisor. Through enhanced case finding, 24 cases of pertussis, 21 (88 percent) of which occurred in adults aged >20 years, were identified in this outbreak, underscoring the need to recognize this highly infectious disease in adults and to improve national diagnostic and preventive strategies. School officials and health-care providers within the community have been given guidelines on pertussis case recognition, reporting, and prophylaxis measures. IDPH and the local health department continue to perform ongoing case ascertainment. [View Report](#)

USA: Pigeon Fever, Equine

10 January, 11 January – ProMed reported Equine veterinarians at Colorado State University's Veterinary Teaching Hospital report a serious increase in the number of cases of pigeon fever (*Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis*) they have treated since early fall 2002 and warn horse owners to be alert for signs of the highly contagious disease. Seventy-six cases from Colorado's Front Range have been confirmed by the CSU veterinary laboratory since early fall, more than 6 times the number of cases from last year's total of 12 confirmed cases, and far above the 7 confirmed cases in 2000. As a service to horse owners, Colorado State's equine veterinarians have created a fact sheet on pigeon fever that is posted on the CSU website at <http://www.cvmb.colostate.edu/vth>. [View Report](#). Central Kentucky has also been experiencing a higher number of cases of *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis*. In 2002 the Hagyard-Davidson-Mcgee clinic in Lexington, KY had 26 confirmed cases. In 2001 they had no confirmed cases of "Pigeon Fever." [View Report](#)

USPACOM

Blue-Green Algae, New Zealand (North Island)

09 January – ProMed reported health officials are warning people to avoid recreational contact with the Waikato River after tests showed high levels of a potentially toxic algal bloom. At a meeting yesterday, Waikato Regional Council (Environment Waikato) said algae levels were above recommended guidelines for "recreational contact." Water quality scientists said levels at several sites were more than double the acceptable limit for recreational use. City officials plan to start dosing the water early next week with powdered activated carbon, which kills toxins and will also improve the taste. Testing of the city's water has been increased from weekly to twice daily. [View Report](#)

Cysticercus bovis in Cattle in New Zealand

12 January – ProMed reported the Food Safety Authority of New Zealand is confident the first outbreak of a rare cattle disease in more than 20 years has been confined to one farm in southern Hawkes Bay. Beef measles cysts, which can lead to tape worms in humans, were found in cattle from the farm about 13 months ago. The Hawke's Bay farm has been under strict movement control since beef measles, was discovered in its cattle but local farmers and animal health officials have been kept in the dark about the incident. The authority's assistant director Glen Neal says the authority has no concern there is any infected meat on the market. Neal says the authority is confident that inspection systems identified the infection and its source. He says the outbreak has not been kept secret, but there are some sensitivities about the farmer's privacy. Neal says the farm has undergone intensified inspection and any suspect meat is frozen for 20 days to kill cysts. [View Article](#)

Indonesia: Anthrax in Humans and Goats

08 January – ProMed reported 8 residents of Bima, West Nusa Tenggara (NTB) on the island of Sumbawa died last month after consuming goat meat allegedly infected with anthrax. All of the victims came from Doringgu village, about 75 kilometers from Bima. The health agency and animal husbandry agency are currently examining the case that includes examining all livestock in the area to prevent it from spreading. Separately, Sudadi of the Bogor health agency in West Java confirmed that there are 7 residents in the area who are suffering anthrax after eating goat meat at a party held by their neighbor. Again, measures are being taken to prevent the spread of the disease. Muslim residents in the area were worried about the disease, because they would celebrate Idul Adha day, when they slaughter goats or cows for the celebration. [View Report](#)

Old Sari Cloth Filters Cholera, Study Finds

13 January – The New York Times reported forcing water through a simple filter made from the cloth of old saris can reduce cholera cases by about half, according to a study of rural villages in Bangladesh where cholera is a major health problem. Researchers suggest that the sari filters may also reduce other gastrointestinal illness. The study, appearing this week in The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, compared the effects of filtering pond or

river water through modern nylon mesh and through old, much-washed sari cloth and found that the sari solution was better. [View Article](#)

USSOUTHCOM

Bolivia: Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever Suspected in Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

11 January – ProMed reported a 43-year old man was admitted to Hospital Santa Cruz on 2 Jan 2003 presenting with fever, headache, myalgias, disseminated arthralgias, abdominal discomfort, nausea, vomiting and low back pain. Fourteen days prior he was working in the fields in Charagua and La Peña, 310 km and 28 km respectively from Santa Cruz. Hemorrhagic manifestations observed were scattered petechiae, bleeding gums and a positive tourniquet test. No organomegaly was found. There was no hemodynamic failure. Laboratory examinations revealed mild aminotransferases increase, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia and hemoconcentration. A serum was sent for confirmation. [View Report](#)

Bovine and Human Cowpox in Brazil (Sao Paulo)

11 January – ProMed reported cowpox has infected 37 people in Lagoinha, Sao Paulo state and approximately 1500 head of cattle, with large pustules on the udders of the cows and on the hands of the milkers. Five foci of cowpox, a non-fatal disease with no specific treatment, were identified in this locality, which belongs to the dairy farming zone of Sao Luiz do Paraitinga. Recommended control measures are to wipe the udders with iodized alcohol and wear rubber gloves when milking. The milk of infected cows should be discarded. [View Report](#)

Brazil: Yellow Fever and Leishmaniasis reported

15 January – ProMed reported on two outbreaks in Brazil: yellow fever and leishmaniasis. The authorities report 26 suspected cases of yellow fever, including 5 deaths, in the region of Diamantina. Mass vaccination is planned. [View Report](#). The health authorities of Aracatuba [Sao Paulo state] are issuing an alert about an epidemic of human visceral leishmaniasis in 30 municipalities of the region. In 2002, epidemiological surveillance reported 43 cases in humans resulting in 4 deaths; there were also 2 deaths in 2001. These deaths have led to the development of a strategic plan for disease control by the Superintendence of Endemic Disease Control (Sucen). As of last Friday [10 Jan 2003], the Epidemiological Surveillance Unit confirmed the first death this year [2003] attributable to visceral leishmaniasis, signifying the 11th death due to this disease since its reappearance in the region in the summer of 1998. The most recent death [2003] is in an adult male. Most cases have been in children, especially those living in lower socioeconomic neighborhoods, due to underlying malnutrition and an association with other diseases such as pneumonia. [View Report](#)

Hantavirus Infection in Brazil

10 January – ProMed reported the Regional Director of Health of Passos and the Municipal Secretary of Health of Sao Tomas de Aquino confirm the death from Hantavirus infection of a 37-year-old farm laborer at the beginning of December 2002. He had been to the first aid station

in Sao Tomas de Aquino in the south of Minas Gerais 12 days after his first symptoms appeared. The material collected from the victim was sent to Belo Horizonte. The Regional Director of Health of Lavras confirmed the diagnosis. The owner of the farm where the victim worked had no comment. A team of specialists has been visiting the city to investigate the source of the infection, and to educate the people on prevention of the disease. [View Report](#)

Inclusion Body Hepatitis in Bolivian Poultry

11 January – ProMed reported on an emergency report of Inclusion Body Hepatitis in poultry in Bolivia. The disease has never been reported before in Bolivia. The location of the outbreak is on one farm in the Santa Cruz district, 43 km from the City of Santa Cruz. The farm breeds poultry imported from another country. The clinical and histopathological diagnosis of inclusion body hepatitis in 24-day-old chickens was carried out because the farm's mortality rate increased. An epidemiological study is currently being carried out to determine the source of the infection. In order to control the disease biosafety measures have been reinforced including the destruction of the batch of chickens containing 8700 females and 1300 males. Further studies will be carried out on all batches imported from the country possibly implicated. [View Report](#)

Please contact the below-listed POC for suggested improvements and/or comments regarding this report. This report is also available on the USACHPPM website at <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/Hiupdate/>.

POC: Rachel Gross, PhD
Rachel.Gross@APG.amedd.army.mil
Lorraine Bell, DrPH, MSN
Lorraine.Bell@APG.amedd.army.mil

Approved:
[Kevin Delaney](#)
Chief, Health Information Operations
(410) 436-5217 or DSN 584-5217